

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	3:11-cr-00013-HDM-VPC
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	ORDER
vs.)	
)	
RYAN ROSS MCKENDRY-VERHUNCE,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
)	

The defendant has filed a motion to vacate, set aside, or correct sentence pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255 (ECF No. 64 & ECF No. 65). The court has considered defendant's motion and hereby **DENIES** the motion without further briefing.

Defendant asserts that he is entitled to relief under *Johnson v. United States*, 135 S. Ct. 2551 (2015). In *Johnson*, the Supreme Court held that the residual clause of the Armed Career Criminal Act ("ACCA"), 18 U.S.C. § 924(e), is unconstitutionally vague. Although defendant was not sentenced pursuant to the ACCA, he received a higher base offense level under the United States Sentencing Guidelines due to his having a prior "crime of violence," the relevant definition of which contained a residual

1 similar to that of the ACCA. Defendant asserts that in the absence
2 of the residual clause, his prior offense of robbery in violation
3 of Nevada Revised Statutes § 200.380 no longer qualifies as a crime
4 of violence and that he is therefore entitled to relief.

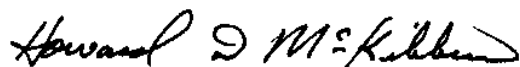
5 The Guideline provision applicable to defendant's offense is
6 U.S.S.G. § 2K2.1. For purposes of § 2K2.1, "crime of violence" is
7 given the meaning contained in § 4B1.2(a) and Application Note 1 of
8 the Commentary to § 4B1.2. U.S.S.G. § 2K2.1 app. n.1. Under §
9 4B1.2(a) at the time defendant was sentenced, a crime of violence
10 was "any offense under federal or state law, punishable by
11 imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, that (1) has as an
12 element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force
13 against the person of another, or (2) is burglary of a dwelling,
14 arson, or extortion, involves use of explosives, *or otherwise*
15 *involves conduct that presents a serious potential risk of physical*
16 *injury to another."* The final part of the definition - the
17 italicized portion - was the residual clause. Under the
18 application notes, a "crime of violence" included robbery. *Id.* §
19 4B1.2 app. n. 1.

20 Even assuming *Johnson* applies to the Guidelines, and that it
21 does so retroactively on collateral review, defendant's claim for
22 relief under current Ninth Circuit case law fails. The Ninth
23 Circuit has held that robbery in violation of § 200.380 is
24 categorically a crime of violence under § 4B1.2. *United States v.*
25 *Harris*, 572 F.3d 1065, 1066 (9th Cir. 2009). *Harris* relied on an
26 earlier Ninth Circuit decision, *United States v. Becerril-Lopez*,
27 541 F.3d 881, 892 (9th Cir. 2008), which held that robbery under
28 California Penal Code § 211 categorically qualified as a crime of

1 violence under U.S.S.G. § 2L1.2. "Crime of violence" in § 2L1.2 is
2 defined in the application notes to include robbery and extortion.
3 In both cases, the Ninth Circuit held that although robbery under
4 the state law was broader than the generic definition of robbery,
5 any conduct that did not satisfy the generic definition of robbery
6 necessarily satisfied the generic definition of extortion, and both
7 robbery and extortion were included in the definition of crime of
8 violence. These opinions have not been overturned by either the
9 Ninth Circuit or the Supreme Court and in fact are continuing to be
10 applied in unpublished Ninth Circuit decisions. See *United States*
11 *v. Alcaraz*, 2016 WL 6471774, at *1 (9th Cir. Nov. 2, 2016) (Nev.
12 Rev. Stat. § 200.380); *United States v. Cordova-Gonzalez*, 2016 WL
13 5724298, at *1 (9th Cir. Oct. 3, 2016) (Nev. Rev. Stat. § 200.380);
14 *United States v. Tate*, 2016 WL 4191909 (9th Cir. Aug. 9, 2016)
15 (Cal. Penal Code § 211). Accordingly, the court concludes that, at
16 this time, *United States v. Harris*, 572 F.3d 1065, 1066 (9th Cir.
17 2009) controls, and defendant's prior offense of robbery in
18 violation of § 200.380 is still a crime of violence - with or
19 without the residual clause. For that reason, defendant is not
20 entitled to any relief, and his motion to vacate under 28 U.S.C. §
21 2255 (ECF No. 64 and ECF No. 65) is **DENIED**.

22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23 DATED: This 4th day of January, 2017.

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25 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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